Case 3476

Dialictus Robertson, 1902 and Evylaeus Robertson, 1902 (Insecta, Hymenoptera): proposed precedence over Hemihalictus Cockerell, 1897, Sudila Cameron, 1898 and Sphecodogastra Ashmead, 1899

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Abstract. The purpose of this petition, under Articles 23.9.3 and 81.2.3 of the Code, is to give the widely used halictine bee generic names *Dialictus* and *Evylaeus*, both proposed by Robertson in 1902, precedence over the rarely used but older names *Hemihalictus* Cockerell, 1897, *Sudila* Cameron, 1898 and *Sphecodogastra* Ashmead, 1899 whenever these names are considered to be synonyms. This proposal is intended to best conserve the standard usage of these names.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Hymenoptera; halictide; Dialictus; Evylaeus; Paralictus; Hemihalictus; Sudila; Sphecodogastra; Lasioglossum; Lasioglossum (Dialictus) anomalum; Lasioglossum (Evylaeus) cinctipes; Lasioglossum (Paralictus) cephalotes; Lasioglossum (Hemihalictus) lustrans; Lasioglossum (Sudila) bidentatum; Lasioglossum (Sphecodogastra) texanum; halictine bees; sweat bees; cosmopolitan.

1. Cockerell (1897a, p. 288) described the genus *Hemihalictus* for a single North American species possessing two submarginal cells and now classified as a halictine. *Panurgus lustrans* Cockerell, 1897b (p. 147) is the type species by original designation (and monotypy). *Hemihalictus* has been in general and continuous use, recently as a subgenus of *Lasioglossum* Curtis, 1833, for the single recognised species, a solitary (Daly, 1961) oligolege on plants of the genus *Pyrrhopappus* DC (Michener, 1947) and related ASTERACEAE in the tribe CICHORIEAE (Arduser, in litt.). Outside of general taxonomic works (e.g. catalogues, keys) *Hemihalictus* has been uncommonly used, typically only in reference to its floral specialisation. Searches for *Hemihalictus* using ISI Web of Knowledge (including Zoological Record) and Google Scholar found 10 and 41 records, respectively.

- 2. Cameron (1898, p. 52) established the genus *Sudila* to include three Asian halictine species. Sandhouse (1943, p. 602) designated *Sudila bidentata* Cameron (1898, p. 54) as the type species. *Ceylonicola* Friese (1918, p. 501) is a junior subjective synonym of *Sudila*, and the type species *Ceylonicola atra* Friese (1918, p. 502) is a junior subjective synonym of *Sudila bidentata*. The six currently recognised species of *Sudila* were revised as a subgenus of *Lasioglossum* by Sakagami et al. (1996). The name *Sudila* has only been used for a few species with a limited geographic range and only rarely appears in scientific literature. Searches for *Sudila* using ISI Web of Knowledge (including Zoological Record) and Google Scholar found 6 and 9 records, respectively.
- 3. Ashmead (1899, p. 92) proposed the genus *Sphecodogastra* for a single species of halictine with enlarged ocelli and reduced scopa that specialises on plants of the genus *Oenothera* L. (ONAGRACEAE). *Sphecodes texana* Cresson, 1872 (p. 249) is the type species by original designation (and monotypy). Eight species, all specialists on *Oenothera* and related genera and all matinal, crepuscular or nocturnal, were recognised by McGinley (2003) in his revision of the genus. Most current authors treat *Sphecodogastra* as a subgenus of *Lasioglossum* (e.g. Michener, 2000, 2007). Ebmer (2008) questioned the validity of the taxonomic characters that unite these eight species into a subgenus distinct from *Evylaeus*. Outside of general taxonomic works (e.g. catalogues, keys) *Sphecodogastra* is not commonly used, except in reference to its crepuscular habits and floral specialisation. Searches for *Sphecodogastra* using ISI Web of Knowledge (including Zoological Record) and Google Scholar found 11 and 69 records, respectively.
- 4. Robertson (1901, p. 299) erected the genus *Paralictus* for three metallic halictine species lacking scopae. The type species was designated as *Halictus cephalicus* Robertson, 1892 (p. 270) but, due to primary homonymy with *H. cephalicus* Morawitz, 1873 (p. 173), the replacement name *Halictus cephalotes* Dalla Torre, 1896 (p. 57) is now used. The group was last revised by Mitchell (1960) who recognised five species. The names *Dialictus* Robertson, 1902 and *Chloralictus* Robertson, 1902 (see below) were given precedence over *Paralictus* in Opinion 1882 (BZN 54: 201–202, September 1997; see also Michener, 1995). *Paralictus* is now most commonly treated as a junior synonym of *Dialictus* (Danforth, 1999; Danforth et al., 2003; Michener, 1995, 2000, 2007) and rarely as a subgenus of *Lasioglossum* (Ebmer, 2002). Outside of general taxonomic works (e.g. catalogues, keys) the name is not commonly used, except in reference to the socially parasitic behaviour of its constituent species. Searches for *Paralictus* using ISI Web of Knowledge (including Zoological Record) and Google Scholar found 8 and 52 records, respectively.
- 5. Robertson (1902a, Feb. 1, p. 48) established the genus *Dialictus* for a single halictine species with dull metallic integument and two submarginal cells. *Halictus anomalus* Robertson (1892, p. 272) is the type species by original designation (and monotypy). Eight species were recognised by Sandhouse (1923). *Dialictus* is now almost always used to include *Chloralictus* (Mitchell, 1960; Hurd, 1979; Moure & Hurd, 1987; Michener, 2000, 2007; Moure et al., 2007) and in the broadest sense accommodates several hundred species (Michener, 2007) with two, three or variably two or three submarginal cells including non-metallic, 'acarinate *Evylaeus*' in addition to metallic species (Michener, 2000; 2007). Ebmer (1987, 2002) has maintained that *Dialictus* should be limited to the type species, with the remaining *Dialictus* sensu Michener (2007) in an inclusive *Evylaeus*, a view not shared by any

North American specialist. The name *Dialictus* has been used in hundreds of studies of taxonomy, behaviour, ecology, physiology and biodiversity surveys. Searches for *Dialictus* using ISI Web of Knowledge (including Zoological Record) and Google Scholar found 122 and 946 records, respectively.

- 6. Robertson (1902b, Sept. 10, p. 247) established the genus Evylaeus for halictine bees related to Hemihalictus Cockerell, 1897 with three submarginal cells. The type species is Halictus arcuatus Robertson, 1893 (p. 145) by original designation. Halictus cinctipes Provancher (1888, p. 316) is a subjective senior synonym of H. arcuatum. Evylaeus, as traditionally defined, may be roughly grouped into carinate and acarinate (alternatively referred to as noncarinate or carinaless) forms (Michener, 1990; Packer, 1991). The carinate group includes the type species. Most of the acarinate species have been transferred to Dialictus (Michener, 2000; 2007; see also Michener, 1990; 1993; Packer, 1991). This classification is not in use by Old World halictid specialists (Ebmer, 2002; Pesenko, 2007; Murao & Tadauchi, 2007; Pauly et al., 2008). Pesenko (2007) provided a classification of the Palaearctic species of the genus Evylaeus subdivided into 29 subgenera. Pauly et al. (2008) also treated Evylaeus as a genus including three African subgenera all considered synonyms of Dialictus by Michener (2007). The name Evylaeus has been used in hundreds of studies of taxonomy, behaviour, ecology and in biodiversity surveys. Searches for Evylaeus using ISI Web of Knowledge (including Zoological Record) and Google Scholar found 154 and 621 records, respectively.
- 7. Robertson (1902b, Sept. 10, p. 248) erected the genus *Chloralictus* for numerous species related to *Dialictus* with three submarginal cells. *Halictus cressonii* Robertson (1890, p. 317) is the type species by original designation. *Chloralictus* was commonly used (Sandhouse, 1924; Michener, 1944; 1951) until it was synonymised with *Dialictus* by Mitchell (1960). *Chloralictus* is no longer in use, and is treated as a junior synonym of *Dialictus* (Mitchell, 1960; Hurd, 1979; Moure & Hurd, 1987; Michener, 2000, 2007; Moure et al., 2007) or *Evylaeus* (Ebmer, 1987, 2002; Murao & Tadauchi, 2007). *Chloralictus* has been used infrequently in the last 50 years except when in reference to its relationship to and synonymy with *Dialictus*. Searches for *Chloralictus* using ISI Web of Knowledge (including Zoological Record) and Google Scholar found 23 and 149 records, respectively.
- 8. Each of the genus-group names mentioned above has been accepted either at the generic rank (Mitchell, 1960; Knerer & Atwood, 1962; Hurd, 1979; Moure & Hurd, 1987; Pauly, 1999; McGinley, 2003; Pesenko, 2007; Moure et al., 2007) or as a subgenus of *Lasioglossum* (Michener, 1944; 1951; 2000; 2007; Ebmer, 2002; Murao & Tadauchi, 2007). Historically, species within *Lasioglossum* sensu lato have been included within *Halictus* Latreille, 1804 but this classification has not been used recently except by Warncke (1975; 1981). The genus-group names of concern here all belong to an informal group called the weak-veined *Lasioglossum* or *Hemihalictus* series as opposed to the strong-veined *Lasioglossum* or *Lasioglossum* series (Danforth, 1999; Michener, 2000, 2007). All available genus-group names within *Lasioglossum* in the broadest possible sense, i.e. all halictine taxa with at least one weakened distal vein of the forewing, are summarised in Table 1.
- 9. As justified below, the commonly used genus-group names *Dialictus* Robertson, 1902 and *Evylaeus* Robertson, 1902 should be given precedence over the older names *Hemihalictus* Cockerell, 1897, *Sudila* Cameron, 1898 and *Sphecodogastra* Ashmead,

Table 1. List of genus-group names in order of publication for the Lasioglossum group in its broadest sense. The subgeneric names of Lasioglossum currently recognised by Michener (2007) are given (except those by Pesenko (2006, 2007) which are inferred based on Pesenko's categories of carinate (treated as Evylaeus) and carinaless or green Evylaeus (treated as Dialictus); Warnckenia is not discussed by Michener (2007) but includes species which have been previously placed in Lasioglossum s. str.). Homalictus (divided into three subgenera, Homalictus s. str., Papualictus, Quasihalictus), Echthralictus (likely a parasitic derivative of Homalictus) and Urohalictus are treated as genera by Michener (2007) but are herein treated as Lasioglossum following Danforth Ji (2001).

| Name | Author | Year, page | Vein 1rs-m | Subgenus used by Michener 2007 | Type Species | Author | Year | Designation |
|---|---------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|------|-------------------------|
| Lasioglossum | Curtis | 1833, pl. 488 | strong | Lasioglossum | Lasioglossum tricingulum | Curtis | 1833 | original |
| Parasphecodes | Smith | 1853, p. 39 | strong | Parasphecodes | Parasphecodes hilactus | Smith | 1853 | Sandhouse, 1943, p. 585 |
| Lucasius ¹ | Dours | 1872, p. 350 | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus clavipes | Dours | 1872 | Sandhouse, 1943, p. 566 |
| Hemihalictus | Cockerell | 1897, p. 288 | absent | Hemihalictus | Panurgus lustrans | Cockerell | 1897 | original/monotypy |
| Sudila | Cameron | 1898, p. 52 | weak | Sudila | Sudila bidentata | Cameron | 1898 | Sandhouse, 1943, p. 602 |
| Sphecodogastra | Ashmead | 1899, p. 92 | weak | Sphecodogastra | Sphecodes texana | Cresson | 1872 | original |
| Paralictus ² | Robertson | 1901, p. 229 | weak/ | Dialictus | Halictus cephalicus ³ | Robertson | 1892 | original |
| | | | absent | | = Halictus cephalotes ⁴ | Dalla Torre | 1896 | C |
| Dialictus | Robertson | 1902, p. 48 | absent | Dialictus | Halictus anomalus | Robertson | 1902 | original/monotypy |
| Evylaeus | Robertson | 1902, p. 247 | weak | Evylaeus | Halictus arcuatus | Robertson | 1893 | original |
| Chloralictus | Robertson | 1902, p. 248 | weak | Dialictus | Halictus cressonii | Robertson | 1890 | original |
| Gastrohalictus ¹ | Ducke | 1902, p. 102 | weak | Dialictus | Halictus osmioides | Ducke | 1902 | monotypy |
| Ctenonomia | Cameron | 1903, p. 178 | strong | Ctenonomia | Ctenonomia carinata | Cameron | 1903 | monotypy |
| Lucasiellus ¹ , ⁵ | Cockerell | 1905, p. 272 | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus clavipes | Dours | 1872 | Article 72.2 |
| Nesohalictus ¹ | Crawford | 1910, p. 120 | strong | Ctenonomia | Halictus robbii | Crawford | 1910 | original |
| Halictomorpha | Schrottky | 1911, p. 81 | weak | Dialictus | Halictomorpha phaedra | Schrottky | 1911 | original |
| Lucasellus ^{1,5} | Schulz | 1911, p. 202 | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus clavipes | Dours | 1872 | Article 72.2 |
| Prosopalictus | Strand | 1913, p. 26 | absent | Dialictus | Prosopalictus micans ⁶ | Strand | 1913 | original |
| | | - | | | =Lasioglossum micante ⁷ | Michener | 1993 | |
| Ceylonicola ⁸ | Friese | 1918, p. 501 | weak | Sudila | Ceylonicola atra | Friese | 1918 | Sandhouse, 1943, p. 536 |
| Curtisapis | Robertson | 1918, p. 91 | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus coriaceus | Smith | 1853 | original |
| Homalictus ¹ | Cockerell | 1919, p. 13 | strong | Homalictus | Halictus taclobanensis | Cockerell | 1915 | original |
| Acanthalictus | Cockerell | 1924, p. 184 | weak | Acanthalictus | Halictus dybowskii | Radoszkowski | 1877 | original |
| Echthralictus | Perkins & Cheesman | 1928, p. 14 | strong | Echthralictus | Halictus extraordinarius | Kohl | 1908 | original |
| Aphalictus ⁹ | Cockerell | 1930, p. 40 | strong | Parasphecodes | Parasphecodes bribiensis | Cockerell | 1916 | original |
| Indohalictus ¹ | Blüthgen | 1931, p. 291 | strong | Homalictus | Halictus buccinus | Vachal | 1894 | original |
| Oxyhalictus ¹ | Cockerell & Ireland | 1935, p. 91 | strong | Ctenonomia | Halictus acuiferus | Cockerell & Ireland | 1935 | monotypy |

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| Name | Author | Year, page | Vein 1rs-m | Subgenus used by Michener 2007 | Type Species | Author | Year | Designation |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------|-------------------|
| Rhwochalictus | Moure | 1947 p. 5 | Jeem | Dialiotus | Rhunchalictus vostvatus | Mollre | 1977 | orinina Legina |
| Australictus ¹⁰ | Michener | | strong | Australictus | Halictus peraustralis | Cockerell | 1904 | original |
| Pseudochilalictus ¹⁰ | Michener | ρ. | strong | Pseudochilalictus | Lasioglossum imitator | Michener | 1965 | original |
| Callalictus ¹⁰ | Michener | ρ. | strong | Callalictus | Parasphecodes tooloomensis | Cockerell | 1929 | original |
| Austrevylaeus ¹⁰ | Michener | | weak | Austrevylaeus | Halictus sordidus | Smith | 1853 | original |
| Glossalictus ¹⁰ | Michener | b. | strong | Glossalictus | Halictus etheridgei | Cockerell | 1916 | original |
| Chilalictus ¹⁰ | Michener | 1965, p. 174 | strong | Chilalictus | Halictus subinclinans | Cockerell | 1915 | original |
| $Microhalictus^1$ | Warncke | 1975, p. 85 | weak | Dialictus | Melitta minutissima | Kirby | 1802 | original |
| Puncthalictus ¹ | Warncke | 1975, p. 87 | weak | Dialictus | Hylaeus punctatissimus | Schenck | 1853 | original |
| Rostrohalictus ¹ | Warncke | 5, p. | weak | Dialictus | Halictus longirostris | Morawitz | 1876 | original |
| Smeathhalictus ¹ | Warncke | 5, p. | weak | Dialictus | Melitta smeathmanella | Kirby | 1802 | original |
| $Pallhalictus^1$ | Warncke | 5, p. | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus pallens | Brullé | 1832 | original |
| Fahrhalictus ¹ | Warncke | p. | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus fahringeri | Friese | 1921 | original |
| Marghalictus ¹ | Warncke | 1975, p. 95 | weak | Dialictus | Hylaeus marginellus | Schenck | 1853 | original |
| $Inhalictus^1$ | Warncke | 1975, p. 96 | weak | Evylaeus | Hylaeus interruptus | Panzer | 1798 | original |
| Leuchalictus ¹ | Warncke | 1975, p. 98 | strong | Lasioglossum | Apis leucozonia | Schrank | 1781 | original |
| Calchalictus ¹ | Warncke | 1975, p. 99 | weak | Evylaeus | Apis calceata | Scopoli | 1763 | original |
| Pyghalictus ¹ | Warncke | Ď. | weak | Dialictus | Andrena pygmaea ¹¹ | Fabricius | 1804 | original |
| Papualictus ¹² | Michener | 1980, p. 8 | strong | <i>Papualictus</i> | Homalictus megalochilus | Michener | 1980 | original |
| Urohalictus | Michener | p. | strong | Urohalictus | Urohalictus lieftincki | Michener | 1980 | original |
| Sellalictus ⁹ | Pauly | p. | weak | Sellalictus | Halictus latesellatus | Cockerell | 1937 | original |
| Pauphalictus ¹ | Warncke | b. | weak | Dialictus | Halictus pauperatus | Brullé | 1832 | original |
| Labrohalictus 10 | | p. | strong | Ctenonomia | Lasioglossum saegeri | Pauly | 1981 | monotypy |
| Habralictellus | Moure & Hurd | 1982, p. 46 | weak/ | Dialictus | Halictus auratus | Ashmead | 1900 | original |
| | | | absent | | | | | |
| Afrodialictus ¹⁰ | Pauly | p. | weak | Dialictus | Halictus bellulus | Vachal | 1909 | original |
| $Mediocralictus^{10}$ | Pauly | 1984, p. 143 | weak | Dialictus | Halictus mediocris | Benoist | 1962 | original |
| Paradialictus | Pauly | 1984, p. 691 | weak | <i>Paradialictus</i> | Paradialictus synavei | Pauly | 1984 | original |
| $Lophalictus^{10}$ | Pesenko | b. | strong | Lasioglossum | Lasioglossum acuticrista | Pesenko | 1986 | original |
| Bluethgenia 10 | Pesenko | p. 1 | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus dynastes | Bingham | 1898 | original |
| Ebmeria ¹⁰ | Pesenko | p. 1 | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus costulatus | Kriechbaumer | 1873 | original |
| Sericohalictus ¹⁰ | Pesenko | 1986, p. 137 | strong | Lasioglossum | Halictus subopacus | Smith | 1853 | original |
| | | | | | | | | |

| | Isnigiro | 7001 | Кігьу | Melitta aerata | Dialictus | меяк | 72 .q ,7002 | Lesenko | Aerathalictus ¹³ |
|-----------|--|------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|------------------------------|
| | original/monotypy | 1840 | Brullé | Halictus loetus | Dialictus | Weak | 62 .q .7002 | Pesenko | Loethalictus ¹³ |
| 99 | original | 1835 | Erichson | Hylaeus virens | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 26 | Pesenko | Virenshalictus Elancitation |
| 2009 | original | 1923 | Blüthgen | Halictus problematicus | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 26 | Pesenko | Glauchalictus ¹³ |
| ne | original/monotypy | 1840 | Brullé | Halicius viridis | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 25 | D esenko | Viridihalistus V |
| Jul | original mandenatum. | 9481 | Morawitz | Halictus truncaticollis | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 24 | Pesenko | Truncevylaeus |
| 7 | original | 7081 | Kirby | Melitta nitidiuscula | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 24 | Pesenko | Vitidius eula eula eula eu |
| 66(2) | original/monotypy | 1888 | Kadoszkowski | billaq səbioimoM | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 23 | Pesenko | Pallidevylaeus |
| e e | lanigino la ligino la ligi | 9281 | Morawitz | Halictus laevinodis | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 20 | Pesenko | Laevinodilaeus ¹³ |
| rt Ext | original | 1923 | Blüthgen | Halictus crassepunctatus | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 20 | b , | Crassevylaeus ¹³ |
| 1013 | original | 9281 | Morawitz | Halictus limbellus | Dialictus | Weak | 2007, p. 20 | b seuko | Limberylaeus |
| 1en | original | 1823 | Зсрепск | snjixnod snapikH | Enylaeus | Weak | 2007, p. 15 | b i b i b i b i b i b i b i b i b i b i | Pauxevylaeus |
| lon | original | 1802 | Kirby | Melitta malachura | Evylaeus | Weak | 2007, p. 15 | L eseuko | Malachevylaeus |
| Z | original | 1903 | Pérez | Halictus fratellus | Evylaeus | Meak | 2007, p. 14 | L eseuko | Fratevylaeus |
| gical | [snigi10 | 7/81 | 2 суеиск | Halictus tricinctus | Evylaeus | Weak | 2007, p. 14 | L eseuko | Tricinctevylaeusir |
| 00 | [snigiro | 5681 | Vachal | Halictus innmuitus | Evylaeus | Weak | 2007, p. 13 | Lesenko | ^{E1} zushlyvslinoM |
| 00100 | Isnigiro | 1832 | Brullé | Halictus marginatus | Evylaeus | Weak | 2007, p. 13 | Lesenko | Biennilaeus |
| N | lsnigino | 6881 | Morawitz | Halictus nodicornis | Evylaeus | Weak | 11.q,7002 | b eseuko | Nodicornevylaeus |
| of | original | 1823 | Zchenck | sn l n sn l n l m sn l m l m sn l m | Evylaeus | Weak | 11.q,7002 | b eseuko | Minutulaeus |
| tin | lanigino | 1802 | Kirby | Melitta quadrinotata | Lasioglossum | gnorts | 2006, p. 136 | Besenko | Warnckenia |
| Bulletin | lanigino | 2001 | Moure | Gnathalictus capitatus | Dialictus | Meak | 2001, p. 493 | Moure | Gnathalictus |
| Bu | lanigiro | 706I | Vachal | Halictus nycteris | Eickwortia | Weak | 11999, p. 112 | McGinley | Eickwortia |
| | Isnigiro | 7961 | Benoist | Halictus nudatus | Ctenonomia | gnorte | 881.q, eee1 | Pauly | ^{o1} sutoilamod1 |
| | Isnigiro | 506I | Cameron | Halictus rubricaudis | Ctenonomia | guonts | 881.q, eee1 | Pauly | Rubrihalictus ¹⁰ |
| | Isnigino | 9861 | Walker | Homalictus brevicornutus | Quasilictus | Strong | 991 .q ,9891 | Walker | Quasilictus ¹² |
| | Designation | Year | TodiuA | Type Species | Subgenus used by Michener 2007 | Mein M-s11 | Year, page | Author | SmsN |
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1. Names first proposed for subgenera of Halictus. 2. Dialictus and Chloralictus have priority over Paralictus (Opinion 1882, BZN 54: 201–202, September 1997).

3. Not Halictus cephalicus Morawitz, 1873. 4. Replacement name Halictus cephalotes Dalla Torre, 1896. 5. Replacement name for Lucasius Dours, 1872 due to primary homonymy with Lucasius Kinahan, 1859. 6. Not Halictus micans, Strand, 1909. 7. Replacement name for Prosopalictus micans due to primary homonymy with Halictus micans, Strand, 1909. 8. Isogenotypic with Sudila. 9. Name first described as subgenera of Lasioglossum. 11. Identity in doubt (intended for group containing L. politum [Schenck]; see Ebmer, 1988, p. 666). 12. Names first described as subgenera of Homalictus. 13. Names first described as subgenera of Evylaeus.

1899. Dialictus Robertson, 1902 and Chloralictus Robertson, 1902 were given precedence over the older name Paralictus Robertson, 1901 because the former two genus-group names were more broadly applied and because these names were widely used in studies of taxonomy, ecology and behaviour, especially the evolution of social behaviour (Michener, 1995). Nomenclatural issues for this group were not fully resolved by this decision (Michener, 2000, 2007) because of the existence of the additional older names discussed here that are used with, at most, similar frequency to Paralictus. The names Dialictus and Evylaeus have each been used with a frequency more than an order of magnitude greater than the older names. An exhaustive search revealed more records for Dialictus in a four year span from 2005 to 2008 than for the combined number of records for Hemihalictus, Sudila, Sphecodogastra and Paralictus over more than 100 years. The relatively infrequent use of Paralictus was considered suitable justification for giving precedence to Dialictus and Chloralictus in cases where they are treated as synonymous with the older Paralictus (Michener, 1995) but usage of Paralictus is greater than that of Hemihalictus or Sudila and little less than Sphecodogastra. Following Michener's (2007) classification, both Dialictus and Evylaeus contain hundreds of species and are distributed widely in both the New and Old worlds. As a result they are commonly encountered insects which are frequently referred to in scientific papers. In contrast, Hemihalictus, Sudila and Sphecodogastra have only been used to represent speciespoor, geographically-restricted taxa which are globally uncommon. The following examples illustrate the wide use of both Dialictus and Evylaeus in catalogues, keys and taxonomic revisions (e.g. Mitchell, 1960; Knerer & Atwood, 1962; Hurd, 1979; Ebmer, 1987, 1995, 2002; Moure & Hurd, 1987; Michener et al., 1994; Michener, 2000, 2007; Pesenko et al., 2000; Moure et al., 2007; Murao & Tadauchi, 2007; Pesenko, 2007), and studies of ecology and biodiversity (e.g. Leuck & Hammons, 1969; Bernhardt, 1976; Motten, 1986; Wilson & Thomson, 1991; Bishop & Armbruster, 1999; Grixti & Packer, 2006; Giles & Ascher, 2006; Tuell et al., 2009), physiology and genetics (e.g. Hefetz et al., 1978; Duffield et al., 1980; Kukuk & May, 1985; Packer & Taylor, 2002), behaviour and the evolution of social behaviour (e.g. Wilson, 1971, 1975; Sakagami & Michener, 1962; Michener, 1974, 1990; Eickwort, 1988; Packer, 1993, 1994, 1997; Packer & Owen, 1994; Yanega, 1997; Danforth, 1999, 2002; Danforth et al., 2003; Brady et al., 2006; Hirata & Higashi, 2008; see bibliographies for additional references). Given the numerous studies involving the names Dialictus and Evylaeus, and current application of these names to hundreds of species on all continents where bees occur, stability of nomenclature would be best maintained by setting aside precedence of the less commonly used names Hemihalictus, Sudila and Sphecodogastra under those circumstances when Hemihalictus, Sudila and Sphecodogastra are considered synonymous with Dialictus and/or Evylaeus.

10. Current usage of the names *Dialictus* and *Evylaeus* results in a nomenclatural problem because these names are beginning to be used in a broader sense that includes the older names *Hemihalictus*, *Sudila* and *Sphecodogastra*. For example, Danforth (1999, 2002), Danforth and Ji (2001), Danforth et al. (2003), and Gibbs (2009) refer to the 'acarinate *Evylaeus*' (species now commonly included in *Dialictus*) which includes both *Sudila* and *Hemihalictus*. However, the taxonomic and nomenclatural implications of this grouping are not discussed. Ebmer (2008) shows that

many of the diagnostic characters of Sphecodogastra are evident in species of Palaearctic Evylaeus, however, he continues to use the latter name as an inclusive group rather than the former. No formal synonymies of these names have yet been made because the rule of priority would preclude the use of the preferred names, Dialictus and Evylaeus (see Michener, 1979, 1993, 2000, 2007). Revisionary and faunal studies of North American Dialictus and Evylaeus, which will apply these names in a broad sense to include Hemihalictus, Sphecodogastra and Sudila, are currently in preparation. The revised classification in these studies threatens the long-established application of Dialictus and Evylaeus. Application of the rule of priority in these cases will require several hundred species of Dialictus and Evylaeus sensu Michener (2007) to be transferred to Hemihalictus and Sphecodogastra: decisions unlikely to be accepted by the majority of authors. As in the case of Paralictus, these nomenclatural problems would not be completely solved if the precedence of only the oldest name, Hemihalictus, was set aside in cases where it is treated as synonymous with Dialictus and/or Evylaeus because it would then create an identical situation where hundreds of species would be transferred to the infrequently used names Sudila or Sphecodogastra. Transferring hundreds of species to Sudila and Sphecodogastra, the next two oldest genus-group names among weak-veined Lasioglossum, has the same disadvantages as changing them to Hemihalictus or Paralictus. For this reason, the precedence of these two names should also be set aside in cases where they are treated as synonymous with Dialictus or Evylaeus. Applying the rule of priority in these cases would not be in accordance with stability of nomenclature.

- 11. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:
 - (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the names *Dialictus* Robertson, 1902 and *Evylaeus* Robertson, 1902 be given precedence over *Hemihalictus* Cockerell, 1897, *Sudila* Cameron, 1898 and *Sphecodogastra* Ashmead, 1899 whenever they are considered to be synonyms;
 - (2) to emend the entry on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology for the name *Dialictus* Robertson, 1902 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation and monotypy *Halictus anomalus* Robertson, 1892, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over *Hemihalictus* Cockerell, 1897, *Sudila* Cameron, 1898 and *Sphecodogastra* Ashmead, 1899 in addition to *Paralictus* Robertson, 1901 whenever it and any of the other three are considered to be synonyms;
 - (3) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) Evylaeus Robertson, 1902 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation Halictus arcuatus Robertson, 1893, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over Hemihalictus Cockerell, 1897, Sudila Cameron, 1898 and Sphecodogastra Ashmead, 1899 whenever they are considered to be synonyms;
 - (b) Hemihalictus Cockerell, 1897 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation and monotypy Panurgus lustrans Cockerell, 1897, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over Dialictus Robertson, 1902 or Evylaeus Robertson, 1902 when it is considered to be a synonym of either;

- (c) Sudila Cameron, 1898 (gender: feminine) type species by designation by Sandhouse (1943) Sudila bidentata Cameron, 1898, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over Dialictus Robertson, 1902 or Evylaeus Robertson, 1902 when it is considered to be a synonym of either;
- (d) Sphecodogastra Ashmead, 1899 (gender: feminine), type species by original designation and monotypy Sphecodes texana Cresson, 1872, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over Dialictus Robertson, 1902 or Evylaeus Robertson, 1902 when it is considered to be a synonym of either;
- (4) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) cinctipes Provancher, 1888, as published in the binomen Halictus cinctipes, senior subjective synonym of Halictus arcuatus Robertson, 1898, the specific name of the type species of Evylaeus Robertson, 1902;
 - (b) lustrans Cockerell, 1897, as published in the binomen Panurgus lustrans (specific name of the type species of Hemihalictus Cockerell, 1897);
 - (c) bidentata Cameron, 1898, as published in the binomen Sudila bidentata (specific name of the type species of Sudila Cameron, 1898);
 - (d) texana Cresson, 1872, as published in the binomen Sphecodes texana (specific name of the type species of Sphecodogastra Ashmead, 1899.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Michael S. Engel (University of Kansas) and three anonymous reviewers for comments on this petition.

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Acknowledgement of receipt of this application was published in BZN 65: 241.

Comments on this case are invited for publication (subject to editing) in the Bulletin; they should be sent to the Executive Secretary, I.C.Z.N., c/o Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. (e-mail: iczn@nhm.ac.uk).